

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-06

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /007 W

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R 171420Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5923

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 2646

FOR EUR/EX AND EUR/EE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AFSP RO

SUBJ: INCREASE IN SOCIAL SECURITY TAXES

REF: STATE 122223

1. OUTCOME OF NATO CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING ON JULY 16 WAS THAT SOCIAL SECURITY PAYMENTS WILL BE MADE TO GOR BEGINNING AUGUST 1, 1973 (AND RETROACTIVELY TO JANUARY 1, 1973). DIPLOMATIC NOTE WILL BE SENT TO THE MFA INCORPORATING CHANGES PER STATE 124695.

2. BASED ON PREVIOUS DEPARTMENT ASSURANCES, INCLUDING REFTEL, EMBASSY NOW NEEDS ADDITIONAL INCREASE TO FY 73 PROGRAM AND SHARED ALLOTMENTS OF \$4,900 TO PAY RETROACTIVE PORTION OF TAXES FOR FY 73. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST IN ORDER FOR PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY AUGUST 1. INCREASE/DECREASE STATEMENT FOR FY 73 BEING POUCHED JULY 18TH.

3. FYI: GERMAN AMBASSADOR WICKERT ADVISED US THAT FOREIGN MIN SCHEEL DID NOT RAISE QUESTION OF SOCIAL SECURITY TAX DURING CEAUSESCU STATE VISIT DESPITE EARLIER PLANS TO DO SO. HOWEVER, GERMAN LABOR MINISTER DID RAISE QUESTION WITH GOR LABOR MINISTER PETRE LUPU IN BUCHAREST SEVERAL DAYS AGO, BUT PRIMARILY AS EXAMPLE OF HOW NOT TO ATTRACT FOREIGN BUSINESSES (SOCIAL SECURITY LAW WAS

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ORIGINATED BY LUPU'S MINISTRY). ALTHOUGH LUPU TOOK NOTE

OF REPRESENTATIONS, NEITHER THESE REPRESENTATIONS NOR NOTES
BEING TRANSMITTED BY VARIOUS EMBASSIES WILL LEAD TO AMEND-
MENT OF SOCIAL SECURITY LAW; AT BEST THIS EXERCISE OF
DELAY AND PROTEST MAY MAKE SIMILAR DISCRIMINATORY ACTIONS
BY GOR IN FUTURE SOMEWHAT LESS LIKELY.
MARTENS

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